Figures for the remaining period will be available after the completion of the 9th Plan. Corresponding figures for road traffic is not available.

Railways' share in passenger traffic has declined from 22.4% in 1986-87 to 20% in 1996-97 and in freight traffic from 51.5% in 1986-87 to 40% in 1996-97.

(c) The main reasons for the declining share of Railways in freight as well as passenger traffic are as below:—

(i) Inadequate capacity

(ii) Reduced plan outlay budgetary support

(iii) Reduced traffic offerings in core sector

(d) The Railways are taking a number of steps for correcting the imbalance in the intermodal share of railways and roadways, which are given below:—

(i) Improvement in productivity of assets

(ii) Setting up of domestic division of container Corporation of India

(iii) Creation of capacity on saturated routes and terminals

(iv) Exploring non tariff avenues

(v) Improved services

(vi) Introduction of longer passenger trains

**Rail Under-Bridges and Over-Bridges in Punjab**

1827. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of rail under-bridges and over-bridges in Punjab;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct more under and over-bridges in that State in the near future;

(c) if so, whether any survey has been conducted;

(d) if so, the names of places indentified for the purpose; and

(e) by when construction work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) 33 Nos.

(b) Yes, Sir. Nine proposal are there.

(c) Yes, Sir. For Eight out of Nine proposals survey has been conducted.

(d) Places are:—Patiala, Sunam, Lehragaga, Bhatinda, Gill-Chowk Ludhiana, Rup Nagar, Chhajli, Jalandhar & Dhandari Kalan.

(e) No schedule can be fixed at this stage, as State Govt. is yet to complete certain preliminary pre-requisites required for inclusion of these works in the Railway's Works Programme.

**Gauge Conversion in Bharuch-Dahej and Other Sectors**

1828. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej, Mehasana-Patan, Samkhayali-Palanpur, Dabhoi-Miyagam, Ahmedabad-Himat-